ACE VENTURA™
PET DETECTIVE

JANUARY 1997
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£1.20 ★ NUMERO THREE

DOE HARD Story!

WIN! PUKKA ACE PRIZES...
60 Cartoon Vids
35 Rucksacks
35 CD-ROM Games

ONE HUMP OR TWO?
A Christmas Camel

PLUS

GET THE ACE TALK AND MORE!

FESTIVE FUN & FROGLICKING!

Allllllrighty then!

Tis the season to be jolly and goodwill to all animals! The fun starts here, and what better way to spend your festive vacation than brushing up on your pet detecting skills. It sure beats pulling crackers or cracking nuts - yowch!

This muletide mirth and merriment issue is just oozing with a menagerie of all things wild and wonderful from reindeer to polar bears, manatees to killer whales. I'd also like to take this opportunity to spank all my fans for sending in cards and pressies - I'm reeheeheeheally flattered - in fact, you're making me flush!

Geee, I think my vocal cords are ready for some whimsical warbling. Do join in..."Dang, dang, merrily on high...Jungle bulls, jungle bulls, jungle all the way...Bark the herald angels sing..." Pheew-www-ooo! Did you feel that, huh?

ACE DETECTION TIPS

1. Pay attention to the Ace Animals pages - they hold vital clues to events in the detective story.
2. Use the detective puzzle to test your powers of sussing out the suspect.
3. Read the story and get detecting!

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DANG, DANG, MERRILY ON HIGH...

ACE'S L'IL HELPERS

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GET THE ACE → TALK!

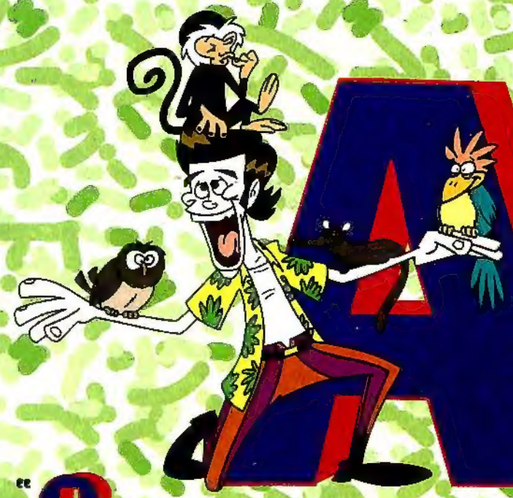
If you can walk the walk, you gotta talk the talk! Ace Ventura's unique guide to vocabulary will render mere mortals speechless!

"Geeee, let me think!"
"Do NOT go in there."
"Yeah? And you're ugly."
"ReeHeeHeeHeally."
"Alrighty then!"
"Loo-OOO-ooo-ooo-ser!"
"Come to me, jungle friends!"
"Exsqueeze me!"
"Let's see that in instant replay!"
"Dang, i'm good! Did you feel that, huh?"
"Spank you!"

TOP TALK TIPS

- Say it loud, proud, and mean it!
- For mega-max impact, some Ace sayings are best said from the bottom of your seat heaving over!
- Ace talk should NOT be directed at fellow humans, except officers - unless you intend to offend!

Why not rechaeeeeeeeeally get up people's nose's and spend a whole day 'Ace talking'? Drop me a line and let me know what gives!



ACE ANIMALS

REINDEER

"Come to me, jungle friends!" Under the spotlight this issue are Santa's little sleigh drivers, technically known as Rangifer tarandus. These dear, dainty, creatures hold a hoof-full of clues to enable you to crack this month's detective story. So pay attention, switch into Ace mode and get detecting!

© ZEFA Pictures Ltd.

Located in the tundra in northern Europe, Asia, Scandinavia, Siberia, Alaska, Canada and Greenland, the reindeer species consists of several types of deer ranging from the caribou to the domesticated reindeer. Coat colour therefore varies from black to brown or grey to white, with typical reindeer having white tufts on the tail, rut, and around the hooves.

As well as having these physical qualities, reindeer have other exceptional features. They are the only species where both males and females have antlers.

© ZEFA Pictures Ltd.

These antlers are palmate, that is, the area between branches is filled in, giving a flat 'palm' shape with the points of the branches resembling fingers.

Okay, yah!

Male stags use their antlers as fighting weapons against other males, and as a means of showing off in front of the female 'does'. Females however, use their antlers to jostle with the males for food. This ensures they maintain a healthy diet to enable them to breed calves regularly.

Wear and tear of the antlers gives rise to the shedding of the old pair and growing of the new. In autumn, the first signs of shedding appear with the drying up of the fur-covered skin on the antlers, known as velvet, which carries blood to the antlers. Once the velvet dries out, the reindeer thrash their antlers against the ground, which cause them to break and drop off. Males shed their antlers from November to April, females from May to June.

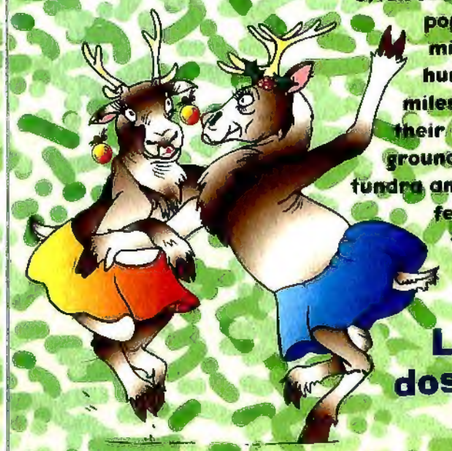
© ZEFA Pictures Ltd.

Phewww! Uh-oh, B.O.!

Reindeer are completely covered in fur from ankle to muzzle. Facial glands located near the nose and feet produce a strong smelling odour which is used to mark territory.

Being ruminants (cud-chewing animals) they survive on a vegetarian diet. Grass and other tundra plants are their main food source in summer, in winter reindeer feed mainly on lichens using their hooves to scrape away the snow to expose the plants.

Does are jovial and sociable by nature, gathering in herds with their young while adult males are often solitary. Some populations migrate hundreds of miles between their breeding grounds on the tundra and winter feeding ground farther south.



Let's dosey-doe!

In autumn, males fight to get the attention of the does. Females produce one, occasionally two young after a period of about 240 days. Young reindeer are able to run with the herd within a few hours of birth. Males do not involve themselves in rearing the calves and much prefer to take a back seat!

Danger from predators is usually detected by sound and smell. When a reindeer is alarmed, it will raise its head high, stare at the source of alarm and rotate its ears forward.

Woodstock's Fact-O-File

The age of a reindeer can be determined by the number of branches it has on its antlers.

Wild reindeer were once threatened as a result of the destruction of natural habitat by man. They were also hunted for their meat, skins and antlers (for trophies).

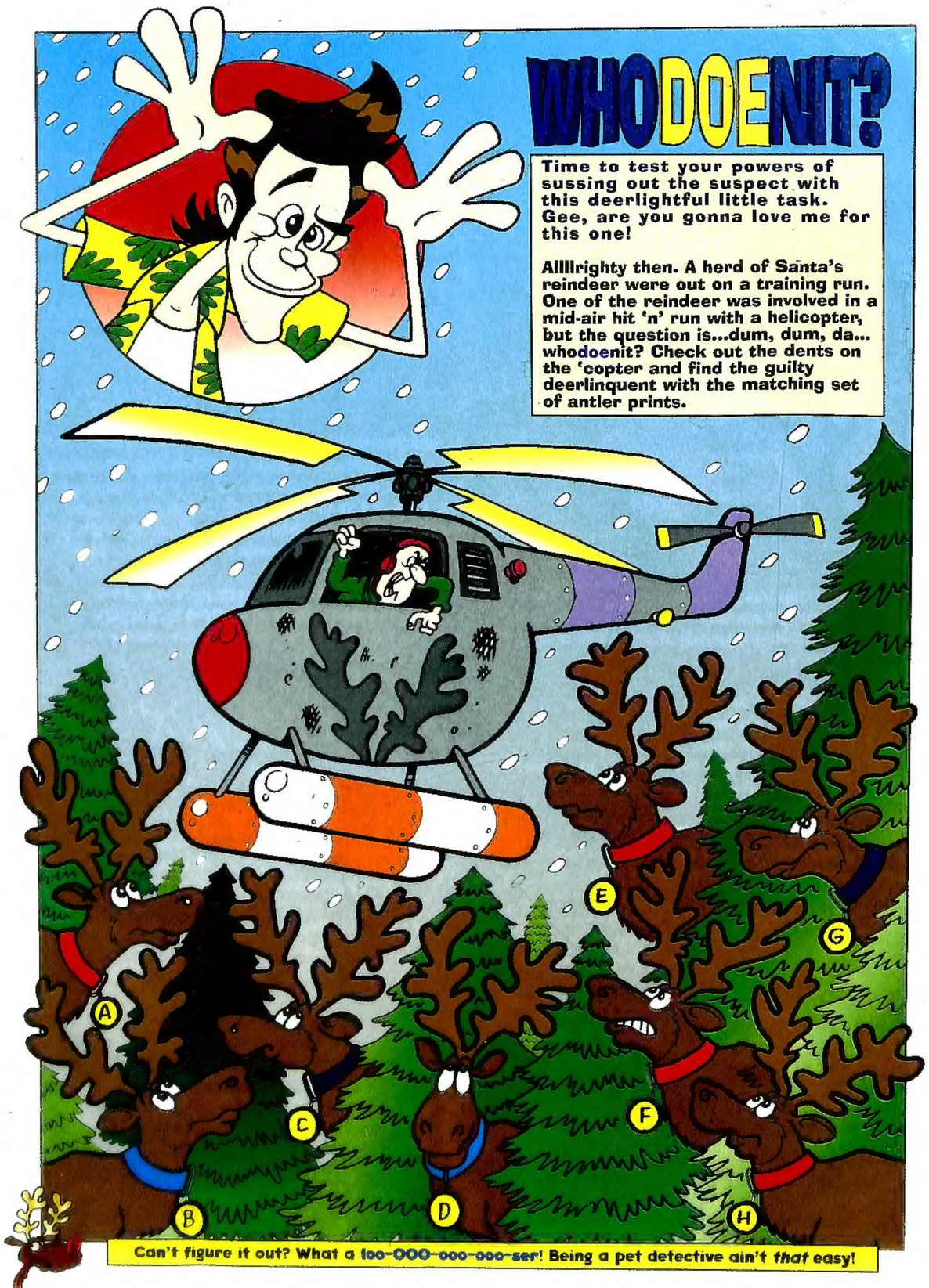
In Europe and Scandanavia, reindeer are now bred for domestic farming for meat, hides and milk.

In the far east, antler velvet is considered to have aphrodisiac properties.

WHODOENIT?

Time to test your powers of sussing out the suspect with this deerlightful little task. Gee, are you gonna love me for this one!

Allllrighty then. A herd of Santa's reindeer were out on a training run. One of the reindeer was involved in a mid-air hit 'n' run with a helicopter, but the question is...dum, dum, da... whodoenit? Check out the dents on the 'copter and find the guilty deerlinquent with the matching set of antler prints.



Can't figure it out? What a loo-OOO-ooo-ooo-ser! Being a pet detective ain't *that* easy!

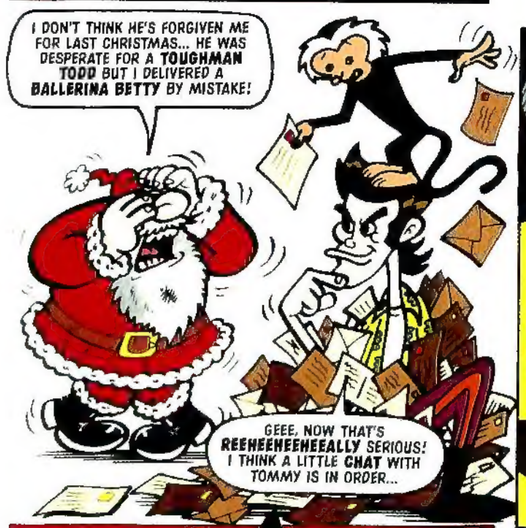
ACE VENTURA IN... DOE HARD!

Script: Mark Bennington Art: Barrie Appleby Lettering: Tom Frame

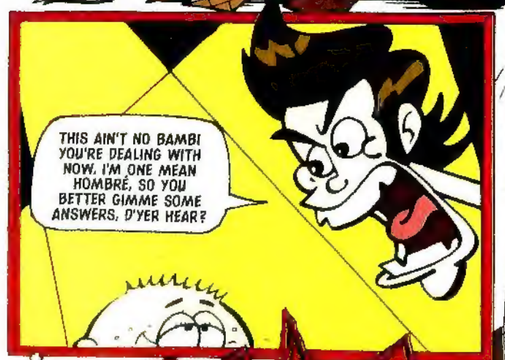
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer (Johnny Marks) © 1949 Saint Nicholas Music Inc. USA Warner/Chappell Music Ltd London W1Y 3FA Reproduced by permission of International Music Publications Ltd

SEEMS TO ME SOMEONE, OR SOMETHING IS OUT TO **SABOTAGE** CHRISTMAS. POSSIBLY A GRUDGE ATTACK?

AHA! NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I'VE BEEN GETTING **HATE MAIL** FROM **TOMMY JENKINS!**
HUMMPHH!


I DON'T THINK HE'S FORGIVEN ME FOR LAST CHRISTMAS... HE WAS DESPERATE FOR A **TOUGHMAN TODD** BUT I DELIVERED A **BALLERINA BETTY** BY MISTAKE!
GEEE, NOW THAT'S **REEHEEHEEHEEALLY** SERIOUS! I THINK A LITTLE **CHAT** WITH TOMMY IS IN ORDER...

C'MON, ADMIT IT, YOU LITTLE TERROR, YOU'RE THE **MISTER BIG** BEHIND THIS OPERATION, AIN'T YER?


THIS AIN'T NO BAMBI YOU'RE DEALING WITH NOW. I'M ONE MEAN HOMBRÉ, SO YOU BETTER GIMME SOME ANSWERS, D'YER HEAR?

BLAT!

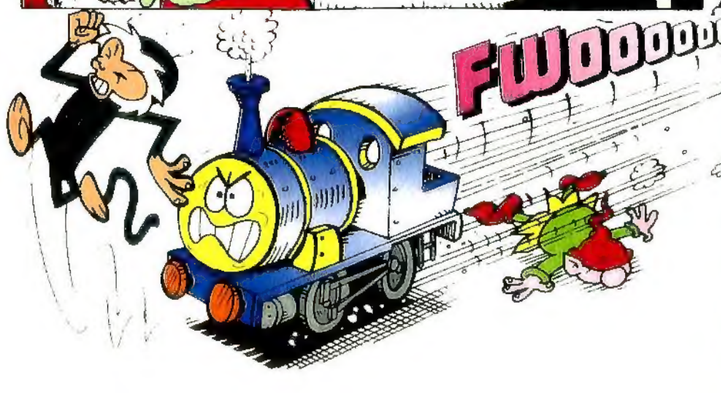
ALRIGHTY THEN, SPANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION – NO MORE QUESTIONS... OH, BLIBBER!

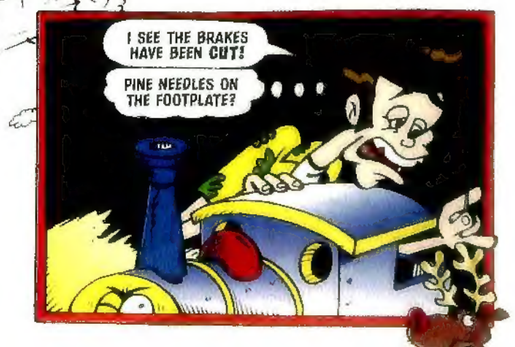
VACANCY
SANTA'S WORKSHOP
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M A BIT SHORT STAFFED AT THE MOMENT.
HEY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALWAYS **SHORT STAFFED**, THEY'RE **ELVES** AFTER ALL! NYUK, NYUK, NYUK!

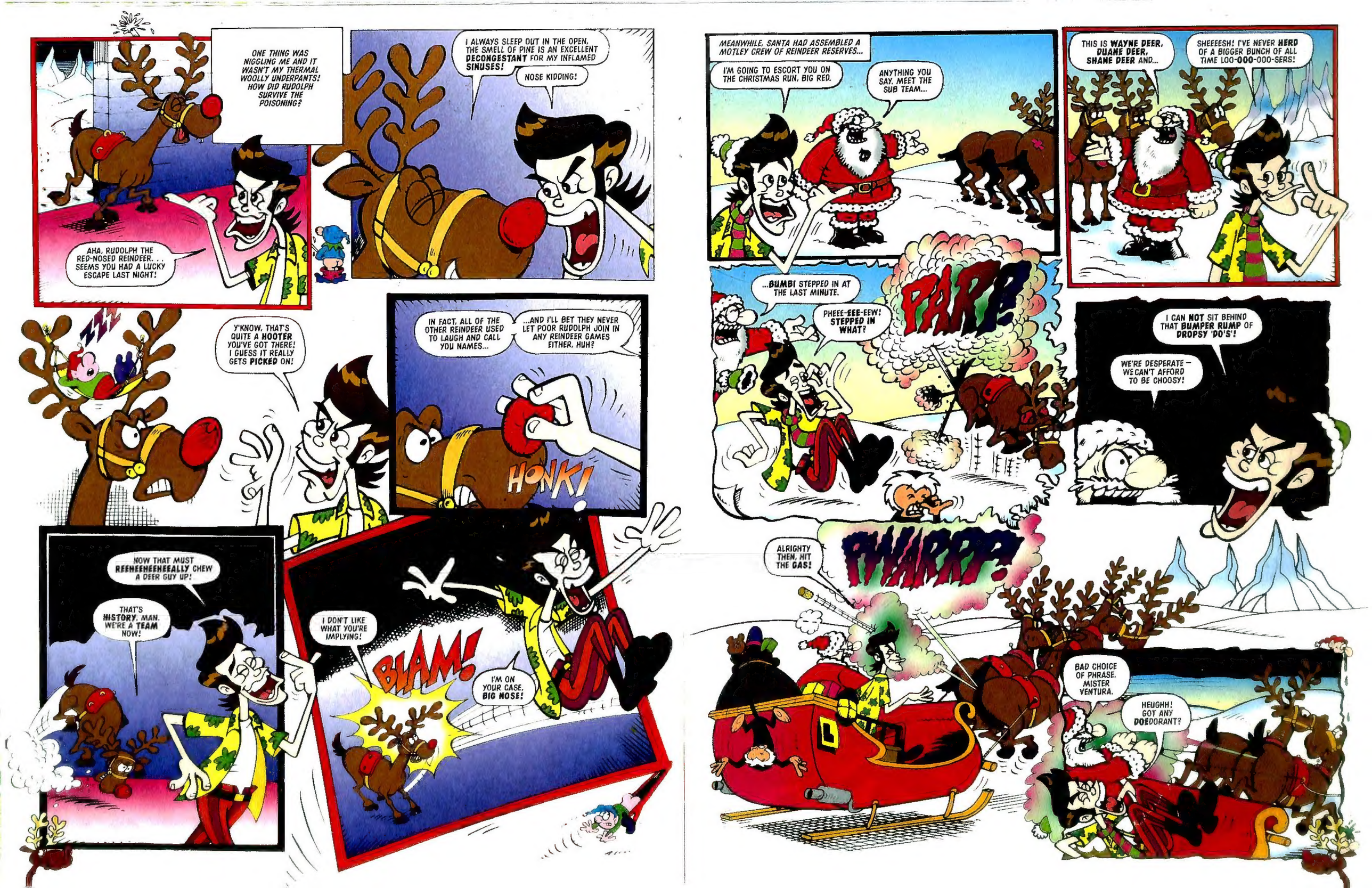
TAKE THAT, YOU **ELVIST!**
YEAH, **QUIFF OFF!**
VACANCY
I EVEN HAD TO DISMISS THE **FAIRY** LAST WEEK!
IS THAT **SO-OOOO?**
I'LL BE YOUR TREE MONKEY!

STINKERBELL HAD A RATHER EMBARRASSING **PERSONAL HYGIENE** PROBLEM – SHE JUST HAD TO GO!
MMMM... NOW, LET ME THINK. MORE **SMELLS** THAN **SPELLS**? A **WINDY WANDY**, HUH?

DANG WAY, LOOK OUT!
GRIPES! WHO STARTED THAT UP!

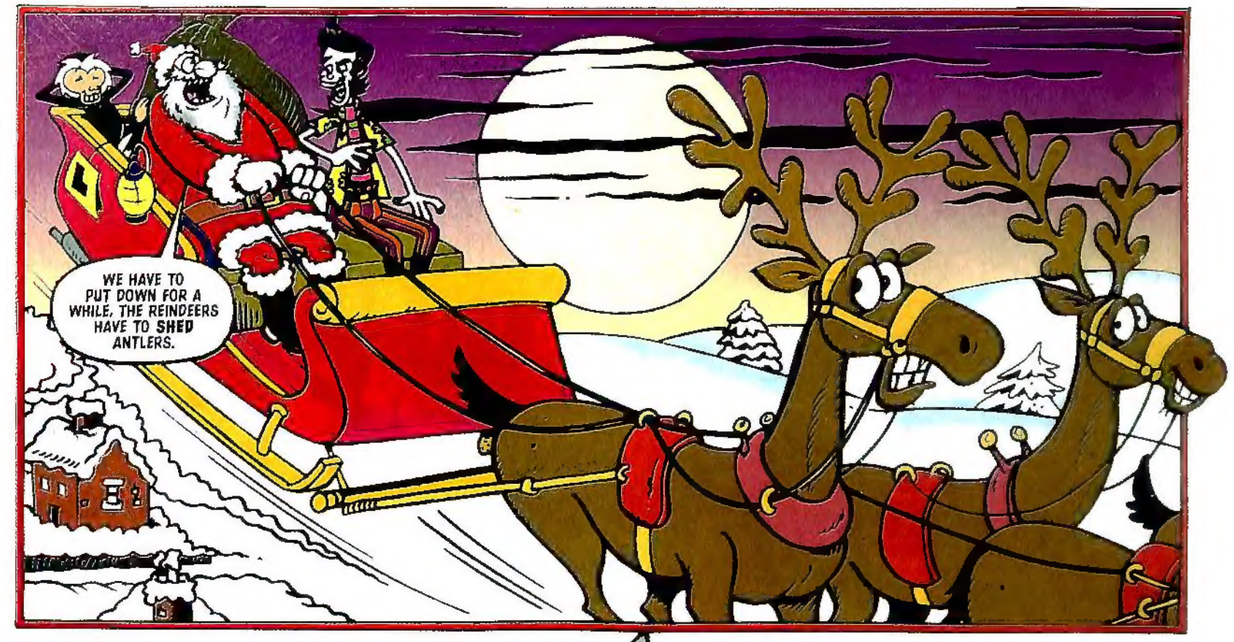

FWOOOOOOO


I SEE THE BRAKES HAVE BEEN **CUT!**
PINE NEEDLES ON THE FOOTPLATE?


ONE THING WAS NIGGLING ME AND IT WASN'T MY THERMAL WOOLLY UNDERPANTS! HOW DID RUDOLPH SURVIVE THE POISONING?
AHA, RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER... SEEMS YOU HAD A LUCKY ESCAPE LAST NIGHT!
I ALWAYS SLEEP OUT IN THE OPEN, THE SMELL OF PINE IS AN EXCELLENT **DECONGESTANT** FOR MY INFLAMED **SINUSES!**
NOSE KIDDING!
Y'KNOW, THAT'S QUITE A **HOOTER** YOU'VE GOT THERE! I GUESS IT REALLY GETS **PICKED** ON!
IN FACT, ALL OF THE OTHER REINDEER USED TO LAUGH AND CALL YOU NAMES...
...AND I'LL BET THEY NEVER LET POOR RUDOLPH JOIN IN ANY REINDEER GAMES EITHER, HUH?
HONK!
NOW THAT MUST **REEHEEHEEHEEALLY** CHEW A DEER GUY UP!
THAT'S **HISTORY**, MAN. WE'RE A **TEAM** NOW!
I DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE IMPLYING!
BLAM!
I'M ON YOUR CASE, **BIG NOSE!**
MEANWHILE, SANTA HAD ASSEMBLED A MOTLEY CREW OF REINDEER RESERVES...
I'M GOING TO ESCORT YOU ON THE CHRISTMAS RUN, BIG RED.
ANYTHING YOU SAY. MEET THE SUB TEAM...
THIS IS **WAYNE DEER, DUANE DEER, SHANE DEER** AND...
SHEEEESH! I'VE NEVER **HERD** OF A BIGGER BUNCH OF ALL TIME LOO-**OOO**-OOO-SERS!
...**BUMBI** STEPPED IN AT THE LAST MINUTE.
PHEEE-**EEE**-EEW! **STEPPED IN WHAT?**
PARP
I CAN **NOT** SIT BEHIND THAT **BUMPER RUMP** OF **DROPSY 'DO'S!**
WE'RE DESPERATE – WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE CHOOSY!
ALRIGHTY THEN, HIT THE **GAS!**
PHARRP!
BAD CHOICE OF PHRASE, MISTER VENTURA.
HEUGHH! GOT ANY **DOE**DORANT?

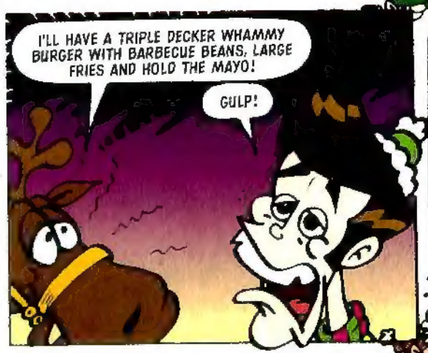
...AND THE EXITS ARE TO THE REAR AND SIDE OF THE AIRCRAFT. WE DO HOPE YOU ENJOY THE FLIGHT!

ACE TO RED LEADER. ACE TO RED LEADER. INCOMING! INCOMING!
BOGIES AT TWENTY ONE HUNDRED HOURS!
ER, IS THERE SOME SORT OF ATTACK?
NO, THERES SNOT!
SPLAT!
BLEUGHH!
DANGNATION, BUMBI GET A HANKY!
I BET HE DID THAT ON PURPOSE!

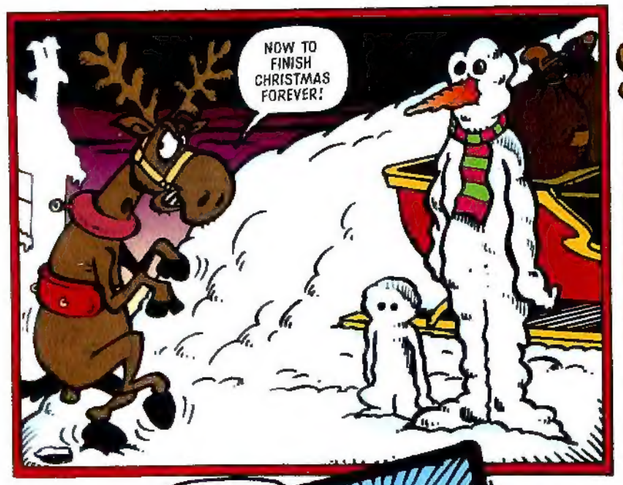

WE HAVE TO PUT DOWN FOR A WHILE. THE REINDEERS HAVE TO SHED ANTLERS.

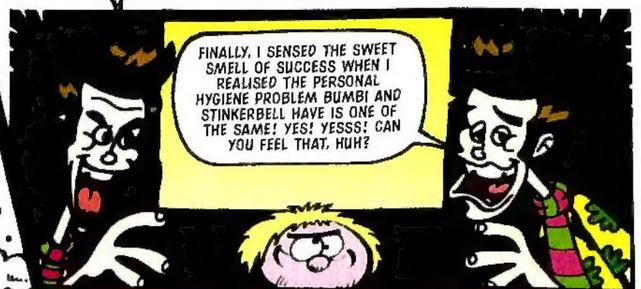
CLONK
BONK!
BONK!
OOOH-AHHH-OUUUCH!

STRANGELY, BUMBI KNEW NOTHING ABOUT ANTLER SHEDDING!



THIS WILL GET YOU OUT LIKE A ROCKET!
AHOOO





NEXT MONTH...THE GREAT PLOTTYPUS PLUNDER!

WISE UP WITH WOODSTOCK!

Intro File Edit View

Yo, animal lovers! Woodstock's the name, information's the game. At the press of a PC key, we take a Stateside trip to *Sea World* in Florida. From as early as the 1960's, (my fave period in history, man!) this zoological park has been involved in the conservation of many species of marine life. It also serves to educate visitors about animals in an informative and entertaining way.

SEA WORLD

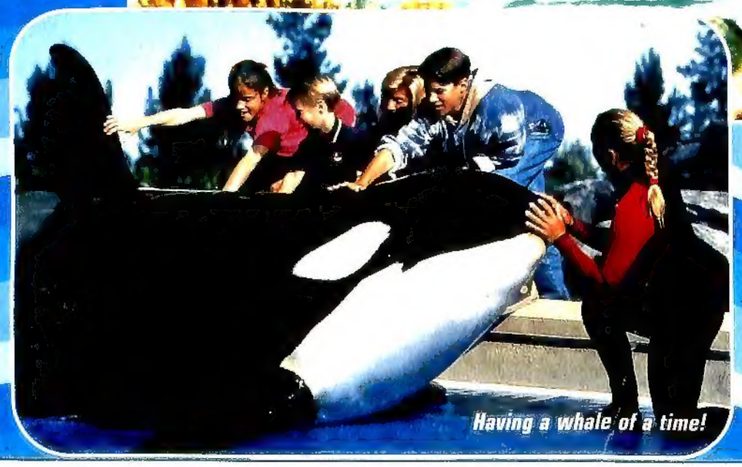
The ever increasing pollution of seas and oceans around the globe has spurred *Sea World* to strive harder in protecting and preserving many endangered and threatened species of marine life. Not only are visitors able to see animals they would otherwise never encounter in the wild, but there are a number of conservation programs involving rescue, rehabilitation, breeding, and research, which visitors are made aware of.

Over the years, thousands of beached and stranded animals ranging from sea otters to manatees and turtles have been rescued, nursed, and released back in to the wild.

Re-creating natural habitats and understanding the biological needs of marine animals, has led to the successful breeding of endangered Humboldt penguins, Nene geese and killer whales. The Nene geese, a native bird of Hawaii, once plummeted to as few as 30 birds, now there are roughly 800 in the wild, over 100 of which have been raised at *Sea World*. The biggest success story by far has been the killer whale breeding program. In 1985 the very first, human-reared, killer whale calf was born - her name was Shamu. Since then, at least nine other calves including Grandbaby Shamu have been born.

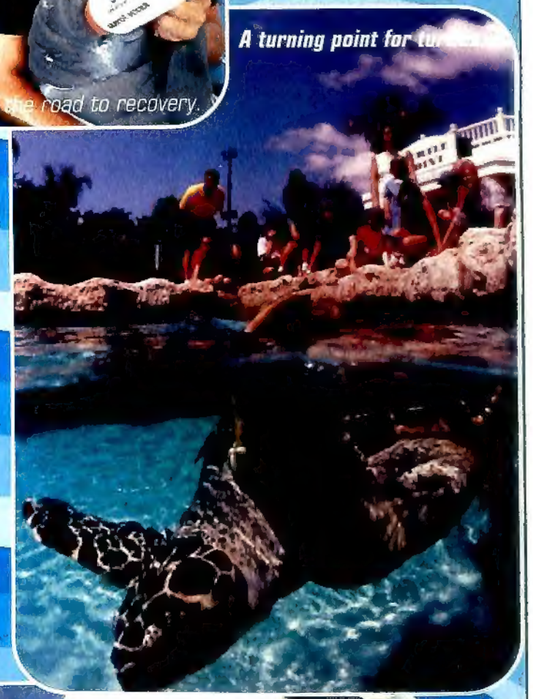
Specially adapted living environments include 'Turtle Point' which provides a safe haven for numerous beached or permanently injured sea turtles; 'Stingray Lagoon' which incorporates a mini-cove for new-born rays including 175 Southern, cownose and bluntnose specimens and the 'Key West Dolphin Fest'.

Wet and wonderful!



Having a whale of a time!

Manatees: On the road to recovery.



A turning point for turtles.

Sea World's latest 'Wild Arctic' themed attraction, enables visitors to learn about Arctic animals and the effects the changing environment can have. Learning about these ecosystems is made more interesting as visitors interact using touch-screen computers or logging on to ArcticNet.

You're never too young or old to learn about marine life, and with this in mind, educational programs tailor-made for all ages operate within the centres. '*Camp Sea World*' offers pre-teen kids a chance to spend a night 'sleeping over' amid polar bears, sharks, manatees or penguins with expert chaperones at *Sea World* parks in Orlando, San Diego, San Antonio and Cleveland. Specialists from *Sea World* even visit schools across America providing teachers and students with first hand information on a range of animals, conservation, and ecology topics. There's also a world wide web site on the Internet at www.bev.net/education/Sea World plus 'Shamu TV' - a program broadcasting conservation information direct from the park.

With the plight of many marine animals (and wildlife too, for that matter) being a direct result of man's destruction or neglect of the natural environment, it's good to see parks like *Sea World* nurturing and providing a safe haven for many species of marine life.

End

Time to reflect: Polar Bears in the 'Wild Arctic'

The Jellyfic World of the Shredz

The Jelly Fairground

GET READY FOR THE GREAT JELLY KNUCKLE RIDE!

HERE WE GO, HERE WE GO, HERE WE GO-O-O

SHOULDN'T WE HAVE STOPPED BY NOW?

...BUT WE HAVEN'T!

WOW!

WE SHOULD...

TRUUUNIDLE

MIGHTY BIG DROP

FAN-JELLY-TASTIC!

HOW ARE WE GOING TO STOP?

WE'RE GOING TO STOP FOR A COMMERCIAL BRAKE!

WE'VE GOT NO B-B-BRAKES?

NOW FOR THE COMMERCIAL BREAK.....

ROBERTSON'S GOLDEN AND SILVER SHREDLESS JELLY SPREAD

THEY'RE NICE AND WOBBLY AND THEY'VE GOT NO BITS

...SAID THEIR TOAST PREFERRED IT!

IN TESTS 8 OUT OF 10 LOAF OWNERS...

AND NOW, BACK TO THE DODGY BRAKES!...

(PUFF PANT) THEY'RE BREAKING THE JELLY BARRIER

HEY GUYS, JUST COOL IT OK?

HELP! HELP!

AAAAAH

WEEEOWW

TIME TO STEP IN AND PUT MY FOOT DOWN!

GLOOP-A GLOOP-A GLOOP-A GLOOP

LATER...

YOU'RE RIGHT, I HAVE TRULY GREAT FEET!!!

THAT REALLY WAS A GREAT FEAT

MEGA FOOT BRAKE

BRAKE BRAKE BRAKE

PS SEND FOR A FREE SHREDHEAD & SHREDLESS WONDER TOY!

For your FREE Toys write to us at the freepost address below (making sure you include your name and address in capital letters). **Don't forget to get your letter signed by a parent or guardian.** We will send you a Shredhead (a super bouncy ball, 2" in diameter, with the appearance of marmalade) and a Shredless Wonder (5" high with arms and legs you can twist into lots of odd positions). We only have 4,000 of each Toy to give away, so write in quickly (no stamp required). If you've already tried Robertson's Golden or Silver Shredless, please also let us know what you think. Only one of each Toy allowed per applicant. Open to UK residents only. Not suitable for children under 36 months. Offer closes 31.5.97 subject to availability.

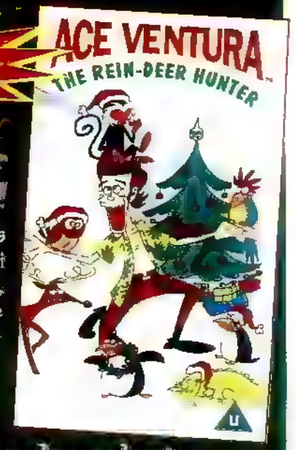
Send to: Shredz Offer FREEPOST NWW1213, James Robertson & Sons, Droylsden, Manchester M43 9JR.

CHRISTMACE CRACKERS!

Hallelujia, my furry little fans! Why settle for Santa's stingy little offerings when you could win one of these great Ace prizes. Go on, feast your flies!

WIN!

From Warner Home Video



60 Ace 'Reindeer Hunter' Cartoon Vids!

Ace goes to the rescue of Santa Claus when his reindeer are mysteriously plundered from a Miami Beach rooftop. Could devious cosmetics queen, Odora be responsible? Will Ace succeed and come up smelling of roses or something much worse? You'll have to find out for yourself...

Exclusive!

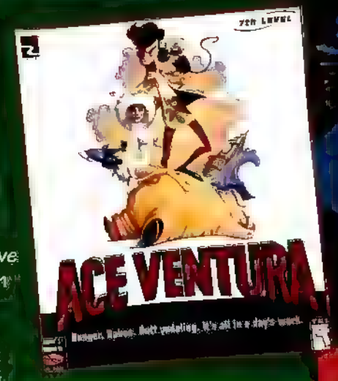
35 Ace Ventura Rucksacks!

If you wanna look Ace-cool at school, be a trendy trekker or just plain sleek on the street, then this is for you! Perfect for putting all your little bits and pieces in, it's waterproof, tearproof, foolproof, has adjustable straps and a front zip pocket. So loud and colourful, it roars!

7th LEVEL

35 Ace Ventura CD-ROM games!

Have hours of gaming fun with this wild and wacky Ace Ventura CD-ROM game from 7th Level! Through 30 exotic locations around the world, Ace has to solve a series of puzzles which lead him to arch baddie, Mr Big. Rich animation, animals, and some groovy-looking chicks too, there's plenty here to keep you occupied!



Quit drooling and answer this pee easy question:

Name the animal that goes missing in the film, Ace Ventura - When Nature Calls?

Send your entries on a postcard with your full name, age, and address details to:-

CHRISTMACE CRACKERS COMP,
Parkes Print, 86 East Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2HR.

The closing date for all entries is Wednesday, 1st January, 1997.
The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

A Christmas Camel

Composed by John Tomlinson Art: Nigel Parkinson

There was a knock at the door of Ace Ventura's apartment. Immediately, twenty three pairs of eyes widened in alarm. The eyes belonged to the miniature zoo of animals who shared his home, and they were alarmed because it was Christmas - and Christmas meant carol singers!

Ace supposed that somewhere in the world there must be carol singers who sang in tune. So why did the ones who called on him always sound like lonely timber wolves with toothache? Wearily, he trudged to the door. "It's Christmas, not Hallowe'en!" he snapped - then broke into a wide grin. "Hello Ace," said the beautiful, dark-skinned girl standing outside.

Roseanne Kabar, the exotic Arabian dancer, was an old friend of Ace's. Every year at this time she headed east to Dar Es Salaam to spend the holiday with her family which left her with a problem. "It's my pet camel, Agrabah", she explained. "Would you be an absolute *doll* and put him up for a week?" Ace tried hard to keep the sappy grin off his face, but it kept sliding back on. He had never been able to refuse Roseanne anything.

An hour later, his smile turned to a down turned grimace as he stared up into the big, sad, brown eyes of Agrabah and realised that he knew nothing at all about camels. What did they eat? What did they drink? And what were those humps all about, anyway? Agrabah was smelly, bad tempered and huge. And there was worse to come . . .

"For the last time, you ugly sack of knees . . . GET UP THOSE STAIRS!" It was now two hours later, and Agrabah was still refusing to budge. How was Ace supposed to look after the great, big, lop-sided lump if he couldn't even get him upstairs to the apartment? So far, he hadn't even managed to tow Agrabah past the front door of his landlord, Mister Shickadance's apartment.

Suddenly, Ace's eyes lit up with a brainstorm. Mister Shickadance was also away for Christmas week, visiting his senile old Aunt Hernia in the Golden Twilight Rest Home. His flat was empty and it was on the ground floor . . . "Alrighty then!" Ace chuckled to himself.

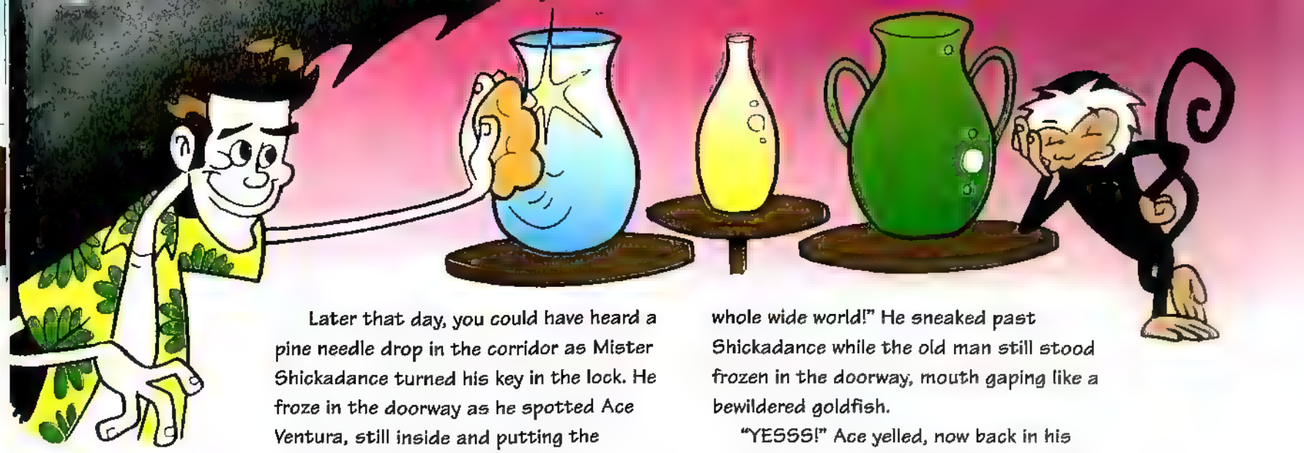
Of course, as a law abiding citizen, Ace knew he couldn't *possibly* break into Shickadance's apartment. No, he'd just have to send in his talented right-hand monkey, Spike, to pick the lock! There was a loud "CLICK" and the door swung open. Ace tip-toed inside, followed by a squirrel, otter, python, gerbil, spider, penguin, raccoon, iguana, duck, toad, poodle - and Agrabah.

"Well, looky here," said Ace, gazing around at the room. "I guess now I know what that miserly old grumpy goat spends my rent money on!"

Sure enough, ol' Shickety-split's flat was spotless. Rich, deep-pile carpets, silk curtains, beautiful bone china vases and prize crystal ornaments filled the room, which shimmered with cool light. From somewhere came the tinkle of wind chimes. It was a palace. "Aw, what the heck", Ace shrugged. "If we stand Agrabah on enough newspaper, Shickadance'll never even know he was here!"

Ace was to hear those words repeated many times over - in his nightmares! He should have been warned when Agrabah sneezed, launching a huge, messy, stream of gooey green jelly, all over Shickadance's crystal ornaments. But in the week that followed, the lumpy lummox turned his landlord's three piece suite into a fourteen piece jigsaw puzzle, his deep pile carpet into a bald walking wasteland and his bath into a dumping ground for something very brown, very smelly and very stomach churning! Ace now knew much more about camels than he had a week ago, and what he knew was that Agrabah would never win any prizes for vacuuming and dusting - or toilet training!

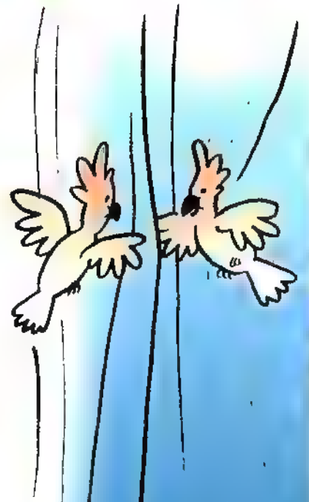
"What am I going to DO?" he wailed. "Mister Shickadance is back tomorrow, and this place looks like the day after an elephant's disco! I feel like such a loo-OOO-ooo-ooo-ser!" At this point, Ace's animal friends couldn't help but sympathise with their master and a sudden orchestra of animal sounds all started to blubber in unison.



The following day, a heavy fall of snow had turned the street outside into a sheet of icing sugar. However, this was also the day that Ace would have to face the music . . . and not just from carol singers! He was waiting outside the apartment building as Roseanne Kabar arrived. "Ace?" she said, puzzled. "What's happened? What have you done with Agrabah?"

"What I should have done a week ago," Ace said, pointing across the road. A crowd of excited children had gathered as old Mister Kringle, the local department store Santa, trotted past in his sleigh. Pulling the sleigh, and looking as happy as a camel is ever likely to look, was - "Agrabah!" Roseanne Kabar laughed. "Ace, if I had any mistletoe, I'd kiss you!" Ace broke into a grin wide enough to wrap itself twice around his head and still flap at the edges. "Hold that thought," he said. "But first, I've got some *reeheeheeheally* important business to take care of . . ."

Inside Mister Shickadance's apartment, Ace's jungle friends were already hard at work. Tag-teams of spiders were re-weaving the tattered carpet. Spike was putting the mangled three piece suite back together, and a flock of cockatoos flew in with new curtains for the windows. Ace grabbed a crystal vase and gave it a spit and polish, "Geee, with a sparkle like that, I think I need my sunglasses!" he said proudly. "Keep it going, my little furry friends, I've got a feeling this Christmas will turn out to be a blessing after all . . . "



Later that day, you could have heard a pine needle drop in the corridor as Mister Shickadance turned his key in the lock. He froze in the doorway as he spotted Ace Ventura, still inside and putting the finishing brush strokes to the apartment, which was now spotless and gleaming again. Luckily, Ace's pets had long gone. "VenturAAAAAA!" the old man bellowed. "What in thunderation are you doing here?"

"Geee, Shicky," Ace said, with an expression of wide-eyed innocence. "You've gone and ruined my Christmas surprise!"

"SURPRISE?" Shickadance barked. "I know all about your surprises, Ventura! Don't think I've forgiven you for that Golden Starburst Baboon Spider you put in my sock last year!"

"But sir," Ace continued. "This is my Christmas present to you! Your reward for being the nicest, bestest landlord in the whole wide world!" He sneaked past Shickadance while the old man still stood frozen in the doorway, mouth gaping like a bewildered goldfish.

"YESSS!" Ace yelled, now back in his own apartment. "Dang, am I good, or am I just a mega groover? Do you feel that, huh?" Spike chittered excitedly. "Alrighty, my banana guzzling buddy," Ace continued. It's time for MY Christmas present. We're gonna find a certain exotic dancer and engage in a mistletoe mating ritual . . ."

Unfortunately, at that moment, Mister Shickadance opened his bathroom door downstairs, to discover Agrabah's own Christmas present. There was a loud, piercing and agonisingly high-pitched scream.

Ace had forgotten about the contents of the bath . . .

The End.

PETWATCH A.V.

DING DONG...NATURE CALLING! Yesss, I'm a man with a mission; to brief you on essential animal info you can't afford to ignore! Whether it's rare, endangered, or vulnerable in the animal kingdom, I'm gonna put you in the know. So, do-do-DON'T be a **loo-SOO-ooo-ooo-ser** - be aware and care!

CRIME DESK

THE MANATEE

RATING
R = Rare
*E = Endangered
V = Vulnerable

Species name: Trichechus Manatus Latirostris

The manatee has often been referred to as the 'sea cow' in Spanish speaking countries or 'fish cow' in Portuguese. It is the only fully aquatic, freshwater, herbivorous mammal, feeding solely on plants.

Features:
Stocky but streamlined body, with a large horizontal paddle-shaped tail. Fore-flippers are used to dig up and carry vegetation. Despite being short-sighted, they have razor-sharp hearing and communicate using high-pitched chirps or squeaks. Amazingly, manatees' teeth are constantly replaced, and grow forward due to the chewing jaw motion when eating.

Size & Weight:
3.7-4.6 metres long, weighing in the region of 1.6 kilograms. Amazonian manatees tend to be smaller and lighter.

Eats:
Sea grasses, freshwater plants, algae.

Breeding:
Very s-l-o-w! They produce only a single calf every two years which is weaned at 12-18 months. During pregnancy the female does not feed for the whole period.

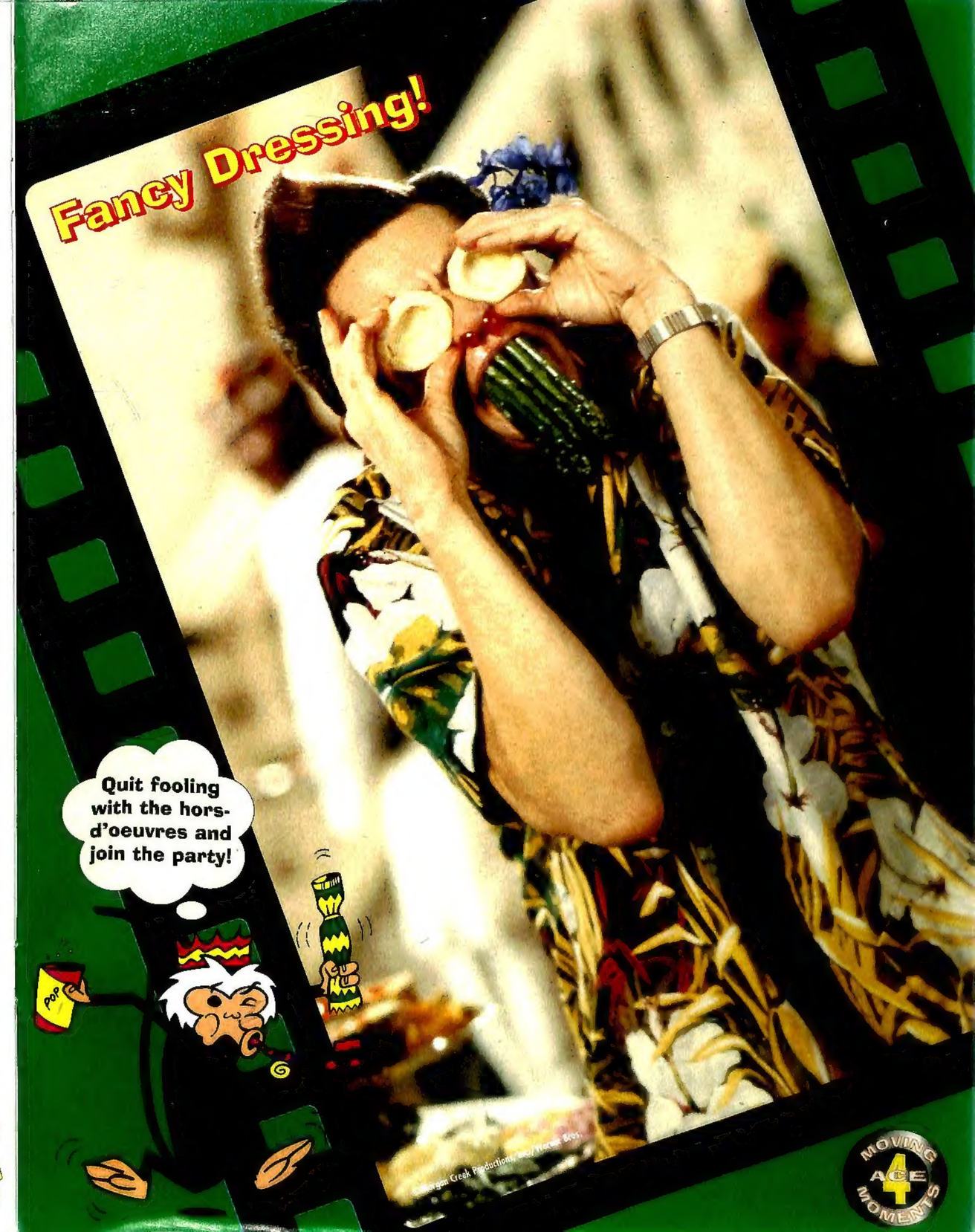
Behaviour:
Basically, they are solitary and very docile mammals. Although they are efficient swimmers and excellent divers, they use very little oxygen or energy. This low metabolic rate may explain how they can survive very shallow waters and even long periods of fasting.

Home Base:
Found along the West Indian and West African coasts, also in the South American Amazon.

Watch Out:
Once hunted for their meat, skin and blubber, all three species of manatee now face increasing threat from polluted inland waterways, and the danger of injury resulting from physical contact with high-speed water craft.

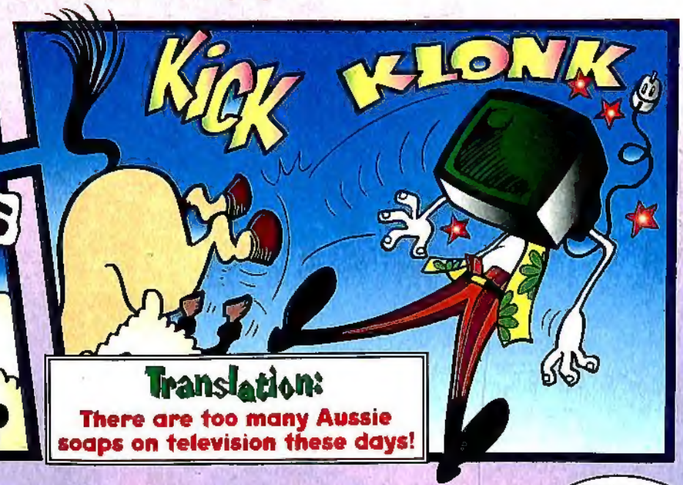
Action!
Man has since discovered that the herbivorous lifestyle of manatees assists in clearing weeds in irrigation canals and the dams of hydroelectric power stations. This in effect promoting the preservation of the species. In Florida, *Sea World* is helping to save the manatee by putting up signs and posters warning boaters about the presence of these mammals in inland waterways. Manatee-proof flood control structures have also been developed.

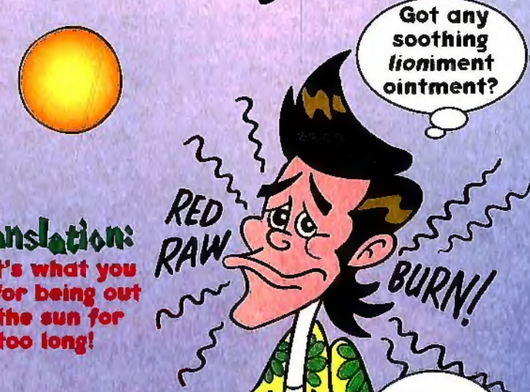
For a free information pack, with details of how you can help save the manatee, write to:-
The Help Save the Manatee Campaign,
3rd Floor, 25 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7DA.

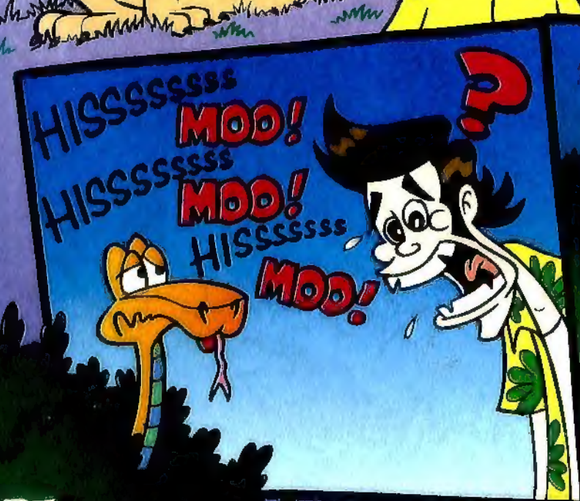


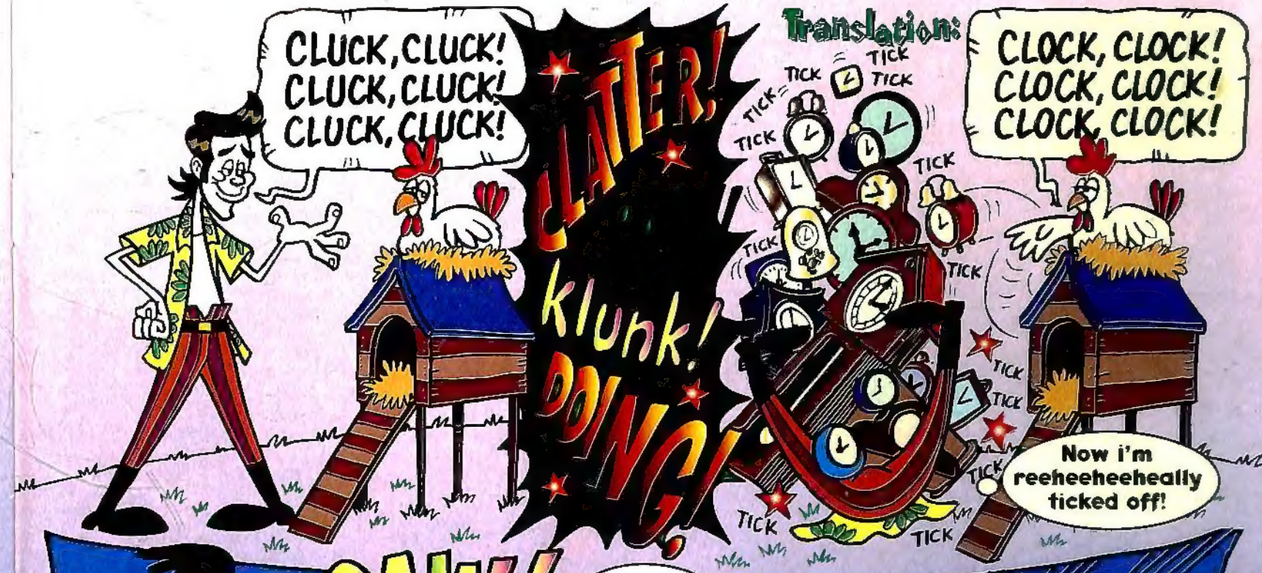
ACE INTERPETER

The Ace Ventura guide to mastering the art of animal speak. Roll those R's, splutter those S's, take a look at the picture clues and guess what the animals are saying!









NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE...

Can you solve the great plottypus plunder?

Is a double bill Ace story too hot to handle?

Do you wanna learn how to draw Ace?

PLUS
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Vent-Ura Views!
Egmont Fleetway Ltd., 25-31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SU.

ACE VENTURA PET DETECTIVE

FOR NAME SAKE!

Dear Ace-man,
My name is Steven Martin and I reeheeheeheeally want to know if there is an Ace Ventura fan club. If so, please send me an application form - prontol
Steven Martin, Langley Park, Co Durham.

Hold it right there, Stevie! There's only one funny guy round here - me! Alllrighty then, now that we've got that straightened out, let me tell you there's no fan club yet, but hey, if you're a fan of this mag, then I ain't complaining!

GREAT APE!

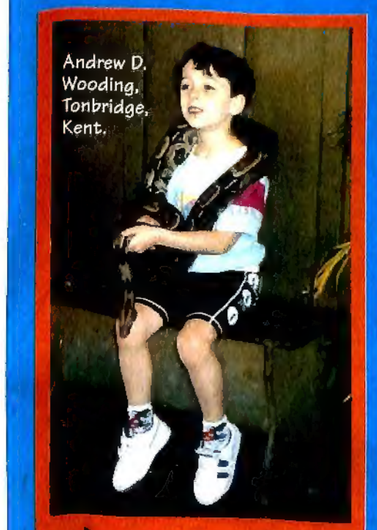
Dear Ace,
Since I saw your movies, I have become one of your biggest fans. I enjoy doing impressions of you, which make my mum and dad laugh!

Gee, that's one mean mother of a spikey 'do' you've got there, 'J'!

THAT'S A GOOD BOY!

Dear Ace Ventura,
I'm glad I bought a copy of your first issue - I would have been so disappointed if I didn't! My hobbies are bowling, reading good comics like yours, looking after my pet hamster (named after you) and I have a little brother, too.
Peter Crawford, Midlothian, Scotland.

Mmm...Tell me Peter, is your pet brother easy to look after? Thanks for the candy bar, Spike demolished it in one gluttonous gulp!



Andrew D. Wooding, Tonbridge, Kent.

Well blow me with a feather, there's a boa round your neck!

SHUCKS, IT'S NOTHIN'!

Dear Top Man in the universe!
I have just finished guffawing my way through the first issue of Ace Ventura and boy, it's the bees elbows! This delightful piece of craftsmanship has cunningly captured the whole essence of Ace. It's going to be one 'ell of a struggle containing myself until the next issue! I was thrilled with my free I-D card and have enclosed a photo of me and my friends. We are all members of the same football team - 'the bin there, seen it, dun it brigade'!
Barbara Czepulkowski, Herts.

Owwwoooooo! Holy moley Barb, your grade 'A' letter is so-oooo hot, it almost wilted the 'The Wave'!

IDENTIFY YOURSELF!

Name: _____

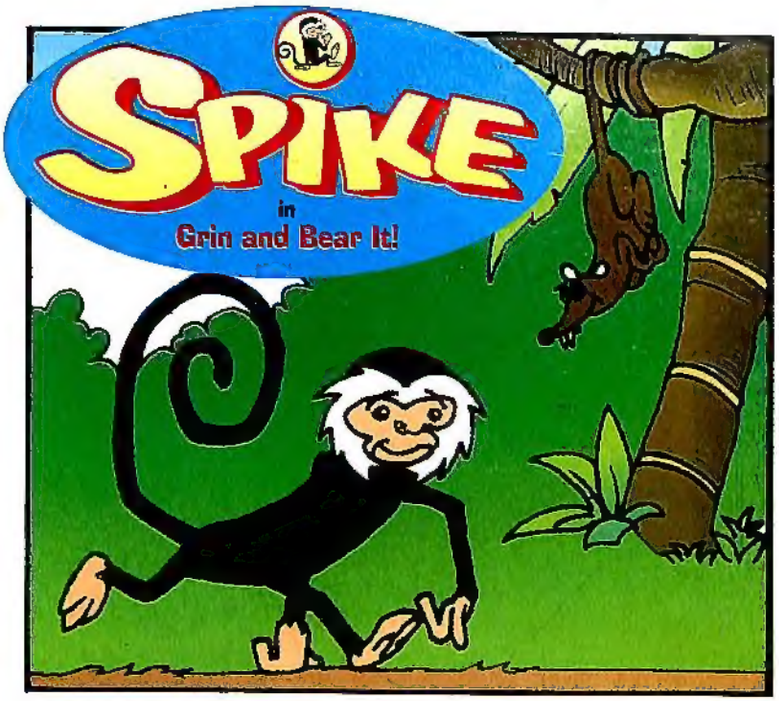
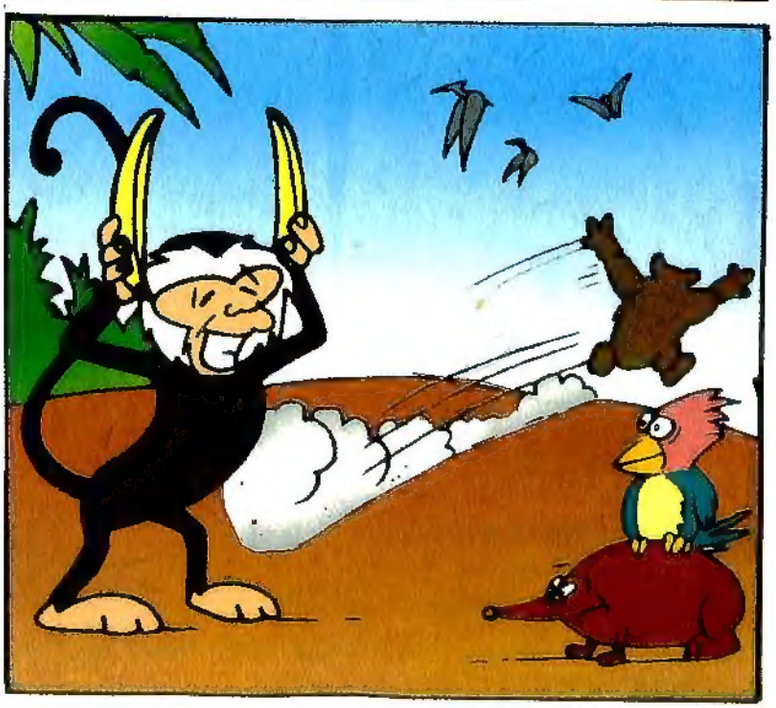
Age: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

ACE ISSUE 3:
What's dang hot: _____

What's not: _____


SPIKE
in
Grin and Bear It!